

Williamwood High School is one of 7 secondary schools within East Renfrewshire and is a six-year, non-denominational, comprehensive school serving the communities of Clarkston, Netherlee, Stamperland and Busby. The catchment area is geographically compact such that most pupils live within walking distance of the school.

East Renfrewshire is a forward thinking local authority which is committed to continuous improvement for its customers, and in the case of Education, increases in attainment and achievement for its learners. Within that framework schools are empowered to ensure we deliver excellence and equity for all working in and using our services. To deliver on this pledge, we offer support and challenge to our schools and the outcomes achieved by our children and young people are reflective of the ethos of high expectations we have for all our staff and pupils.

Williamwood High School works within the context of the Local Improvement Plan of East Renfrewshire Council's Education Department and the Key Priorities of the National Improvement Framework.



Williamwood High School has three associated primaries (Busby Primary School, Carolside Primary School and Netherlee Primary School) and two Family Centres (Cart Mill Family Centre and Overlee Family Centre) . The school also comprises an integrated Communication Support Service which provides specialist support for East Renfrewshire pupils.

Williamwood High School has a current roll of 1686 pupils. 2% of the pupils reside within SIMD 1-3 areas, 14% within SIMD 4-7 areas and 84% within SIMD 8-10 areas. 5.2% of pupils are in receipt of free school meals, 24% have an additional support need and 15% are from a BAME background. There are small numbers of care experienced pupils and looked after pupils.

Williamwood High School has a teaching complement of 125.55 FTE, which includes:

- 1 Head Teacher
- 6 Depute Headteachers
- 15 Principal Teachers (Curriculum)
- 9 Principal Teachers (Pupil Support)
- 5 Principal Teachers (Development)
- 1 Business Manager
- 10 Clerical Staff
- 1 Modern Apprentice
- 5.5 Technicians
- 25 School Support Assistants
- 0.5 Librarian

## **OUR BUILDING**

In August 2006, the school moved into a new state of the art building constructed and managed by BAM as part of the local authority PPP programme. The building is equipped to the highest specification throughout and maintained to a high standard. All classrooms have high quality ICT facilities and in addition there are a total of 13 dedicated ICT rooms. The school library is also well equipped with ICT equipment. The Music and Drama facilities in our Performing Arts faculty are of the highest contemporary standard and we also have first class PE facilities, both indoor and outdoor. We have a well-equipped Pupil Support suite and a range of specialist rooms for students with additional support needs. Our Art and Design department is a particularly impressive feature of the building. This first-class facility in its delightful green-belt location helps us to ensure that the learning experience we provide for our pupils continues to be of the highest quality.



## **VISION AND VALUES**

The school's vision and ethos reflect fully East Renfrewshire's vision statement of "Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving through Excellent Experiences". We aim to provide every pupil with a school experience that is challenging and enjoyable in equal measure, and which is tailored to the personality, talents and aspirations of each individual learner. The ethos of the school is nurturing, supportive and ambitious. We work closely with parents, carers and a wide range of other partners to achieve the best outcomes for our pupils and treat each pupil as an individual. Williamwood High School is noted for its caring and inclusive ethos. Pastoral, learning and behaviour support provision is strong, and relationships between staff and pupils are excellent.

The values which underpin the school's vision, and against which we evaluate our performance, are respect, responsibility, fairness, integrity and ambition.

## **OUR STUDENTS**

Our roll is currently 1687, which includes 41 pupils who attend the Communication Support Service. Approximately 97% of our pupils return to S5 and almost 95% stay on into S6. Pupils are ambitious and aspire to achieve their full potential. Attainment in national

examinations is exceptional. Details of the school's attainment profile can be found in our [standards and quality report](#) and [school handbook](#).

Over 70% of pupils go on to higher education, with the remainder primarily opting for further education or training. Approximately 98% of leavers enter a positive destination.

We have a well-established framework for pupil consultation based around four pupil forums, which work on identified areas of priority (currently mental health and wellbeing, equalities, school matters, sustainability). Two pupil conferences are held each year and are attended by pupils in large numbers.

Pupil attendance statistics are high, averaging 95%, and standards of uniform and behaviour are excellent.



## **OUR STAFF**

Professional learning activities for staff are given a high priority in the school as part of our collegiate agreement. We actively encourage our staff to seek opportunities to extend their expertise to ensure that we provide the highest quality learning experiences for our pupils. All staff have undertaken professional enquiry in collaboration with the University of Strathclyde.

Close working relationships within the staff are a strength of the school and staff widely deliver CLPL for colleagues within and outwith the school. All staff are collaborative in their approach and a high proportion have undertaken professional learning at masters level and many of our staff participate our leadership development programmes each year.

## **OUR CURRICULUM**

The curriculum is designed to offer breadth, depth and progression at all stages and to provide appropriate challenge for our pupils. Our curriculum is characterised by the highest standards of learning and teaching and by a search for continuous improvement. It reflects national and local priorities and there are appropriate opportunities for choice to ensure continued relevance and enjoyment for our pupils as they progress through the school. Pupils have the opportunity to specialise at the end of S2, and our options structure is designed to ensure that learners continue to follow all of the curricular areas. Most learners are presented for eight National Qualifications at the end of S4, with many choosing to study Physical Education as a ninth qualification at National level.

Pupils in S5 and S6 study up to five subjects at the appropriate level, including a broad range of vocational courses offered by East Renfrewshire Council in conjunction with its partner colleges. Options booklets for [S3](#) and [S5 and S6](#) provide full details of the courses on offer. The curriculum is further supported by extensive programmes of supported study and Easter school which are well attended by senior pupils.

## **OUR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

A significant feature of the school is the extent to which pupils are able to pursue activities beyond the formal curriculum. Pupils have a range of opportunities to exercise responsibility and develop their citizenship skills in the school. We have a very strong tradition of charity work and we have a very active Malawi group, Eco group and LGBT+ group. Our Malawi partnership has been running for almost 15 years, with the group raising up to £30,000 in a single year to build and refurbish classrooms in the Ekwendeni area. Up to 30 pupils and staff visit Ekwendeni each year to work on renovation and building programmes. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is also a key feature of the school's citizenship programme, with up to 150 pupils completing the Award each year at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. A wide range of sporting activities is also available to pupils and a host of Music and Drama clubs also exist. We run a range of shows, concerts, exhibitions and competitions each session. In total, we offer some 90 extracurricular clubs. A wide selection of foreign trips is also offered to pupils in all year groups. These activities give an added dimension to the pupils' education and make an important contribution to the positive ethos in the school.

Pupils' achievements are celebrated through our well-used website and Twitter pages, year group assemblies and departmental achievement boards, as well as our junior and senior awards ceremonies, BGE awards ceremony, S6 graduation and Duke of Edinburgh's Awards ceremony.



## **OUR PARENTS**

We benefit from a parent body which is exceptionally supportive of the school. The school has a thriving and engaged Parent Council and a PTA which makes an excellent contribution to school life by organising a wide range of fundraising and social events to generate income used for the benefit of our pupils.

The school is also fortunate in having strong parental support for pupils' learning, including home learning. Parents have high expectations of the school and provide encouragement and support for their children.

The Parent Council and wider parent body also provide exceptional support in helping our pupil support team to prepare senior pupils for applications and interviews.

## OUR COMMUNITY

We endeavour to build strong links with the community we serve and to work in partnership with various groups within the local community. With this aim in mind, we have developed a number of successful partnerships and projects. We have an exceptional chaplaincy team with whom we work closely to organise tea parties, Burns lunches and concerts for local residents.



For many years we have worked with the Richmond Foundation to develop our *Tea in The Street* project, working on a range of projects with local residents who are living with Alzheimer's. Our community maths project has enabled some of our senior pupils to work with groups of East Renfrewshire residents who are seeking to develop basic mathematical skills for work and, in many cases, to secure recognised national qualifications in mathematics and numeracy.

